JAMES W. JOHNSTON
Chairman and
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Winston-Salem, N.C. 27102
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May 5, 1994

Mr. Richard Ellegate
6 Wisteria Avenue
Oneonta, NY 13820

Dear Mr. Ellegate:

Thank you for your very articulate letter regarding my testimony at the Congressional tobacco hearings. I appreciated your expression of support.

Despite the hostile attitude of the people who organized the hearings, I am pleased that we had an opportunity to present our side of the story to the American public. We welcomed the chance to present the facts that dispute the false accusations against the tobacco industry. I entered the hearing feeling a strong sense of responsibility and conviction from knowing that I had to speak for millions of responsible American adults who have the right to smoke if they wish.

We have heard from many smokers and non-smokers who share your objection to unreasonable tactics aimed at prohibiting the sale and use of a legal product. The numerous calls and letters we've received since the hearings demonstrate that many people share our opposition to the anti-smoking industry's efforts to regulate personal freedom and create a back-door "Prohibition" against cigarettes. We are committed to continuing to speak out aggressively on this issue.

Thank you for taking the to share your viewpoint with us, and for your support of individual freedom -- including smokers' rights.

Sincerely,

James W. Johnston

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"We work for smokers."

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/krfn0000